

Lake Greenwood/Saluda River: Phosphorus Levels

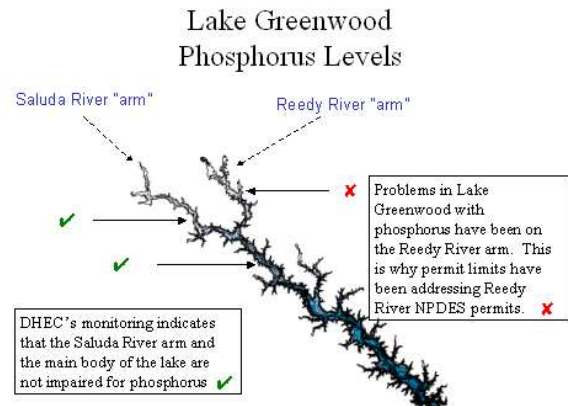
Frequently Asked Questions

What does DHEC's monitoring program indicate about phosphorus loading from the Saluda River?

DHEC's long-term [monitoring](#) indicates that Lake Greenwood is not violating the phosphorus standard in the lake or on the Saluda River arm.

Are there concerns about the potential for algal blooms in Lake Greenwood?

Yes. The portion of Lake Greenwood where the Reedy River flows into the lake has had problems in the past. In 1999, there was a large algal bloom. Because there have been problems in the Reedy River arm of Greenwood, DHEC is developing what the Clean Water Act calls a "[total maximum daily load](#)" (TMDL) for the Reedy River watershed. There have not been these problems on the Saluda River arm of Lake Greenwood.



Even though there are not the same problems on the Saluda River arm of Lake Greenwood, does that mean that permits in the Saluda River watershed don't need phosphorus limits?

Current levels of discharges from domestic wastewater plants are not causing problems on the Saluda River arm of Lake Greenwood. These dischargers are not flowing at their full permitted capacity, which is typical. DHEC did an assessment this summer on the affect of these dischargers on Lake Greenwood. It appears that though the current flows do not cause a problem, if the plants operated at their design flows (full permitted capacity) a problem may occur.

What is DHEC's permitting plan since the permits need to be reissued?

DHEC plans to draft permits with limits on phosphorus loading from each of the facilities. The goal of the loading limits would be to prevent the Saluda River arm of Lake Greenwood from having phosphorus problems. These draft permits would be available for comment during a public participation process.

What facilities will be affected by DHEC's permitting plan?

Here is the list of facilities with permit number:

Easley/Georges Creek	SC0023043
REWA/Georges Creek	SC0047309
Easley/Middle Branch	SC0039853
REWA/Piedmont Reg.*	SC0048470*
Pelzer	SC0040797
West Pelzer	SC0025194
United Utility Co/Valleybrook	SC0028673
Williamston	SC0046841
Belton	SC0045896
Ware Shoals	SC0020214

[* This reflects a new proposed plant that would eliminate two existing ReWa plants: Piedmont and Grove Creek – both already discharging to the Saluda River]

How can I learn more about the public participation process?

DHEC has a mailing list developed for Lake Greenwood/Saluda River phosphorus permitting concerns. You can send an email to [Michael Montebello](#) and note "Lake Greenwood mailing list". DHEC will also use various methods to encourage public participation such as placing the public notice on our [website](#) and in area newspapers.

DHEC, also has a standard mailing list for wastewater discharge permits. For this, people can sign up to get notices about specific facilities or for all facilities in certain counties. A request can be made to the following address:

NPDES Mailing Lists
Bureau of Water
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Do you have further questions?

DHEC Permitting: [Jeff deBessonnet](#) (803-898-4157)

DHEC Saluda Basin Watershed Manager: [Rebecca Spratlin](#) (803-898-4355)

DHEC Region 1 Environmental Quality Control (EQC) Office, Greenwood:
(864) 223-0333 or [Uwe Klauck](#)